

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S499–S564

Measures Introduced: Thirty bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 262–291, S.J. Res. 5, and S. Res. 41–45. **Pages S543–44**

Measures Reported:

S. 23, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform, with amendments.

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Measures Passed:

Majority Party Committee Membership: Senate agreed to S. Res. 42, to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Twelfth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. **Pages S556–57**

Minority Party Committee Membership: Senate agreed to S. Res. 43, to constitute the minority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Twelfth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. **Page S557**

Supporting Democracy in Egypt: Senate agreed to S. Res. 44, supporting democracy, universal rights, and the peaceful transition to a representative government in Egypt. **Pages S557–58**

Congratulating the Eastern Washington University Football Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 45, congratulating the Eastern Washington University football team for winning the 2010 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division 1 Football Championship Subdivision title. **Pages S558–59**

Measures Considered:

FAA Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 223, to modernize the air traffic control system, improve the safety, reliability, and availability of transportation by air in the United States, provide modernization of the air traffic control system, reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S501–09, S531–38**

Adopted:

By 96 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 10), Whitehouse Amendment No. 8, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for aiming laser pointers at airplanes. **Pages S503–07, S535**

Rejected:

Paul Amendment No. 19, to limit the application of the Davis-Bacon Act in the case of projects funded under this Act. (By 55 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 11), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S533–35, S536**

Pending:

Wicker Amendment No. 14, to exclude employees of the Transportation Security Administration from the collective bargaining rights of Federal employees. **Pages S501–02, S532, S538**

Blunt Amendment No. 5, to require the Under Secretary of Transportation for Security to approve applications from airports to authorize passenger and property screening to be carried out by a qualified private screening company. **Pages S502–03**

Nelson (FL) Amendment No. 34, to strike section 605. **Page S507**

Paul Amendment No. 21, to reduce the total amount authorized to be appropriated for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal year 2011 to the total amount authorized to be appropriated for the Administration for fiscal year 2008. **Page S531**

Rockefeller (for Wyden) Amendment No. 27, to increase the number of test sites in the National Airspace System used for unmanned aerial vehicles and to require one of those test sites to include a significant portion of public lands. **Pages S531–32**

Inhofe Amendment No. 6, to provide liability protection to volunteer pilot nonprofit organizations that fly for public benefit and to the pilots and staff of such nonprofit organizations. **Page S536**

Inhofe Amendment No. 7, to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to initiate a new rulemaking proceeding with respect to the flight time limitations and rest requirements for supplemental operations before any of such limitations or requirements be altered. **Pages S536–38**

Rockefeller (for Ensign) Amendment No. 32, to improve provisions relating to certification and flight

standards for military remotely piloted aerial systems in the National Airspace System. **Page S538**

Appointments:

Senate National Security Working Group: The Chair, announced on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 105 (adopted April 13, 1989), as amended by S. Res. 149 (adopted October 5, 1993), as amended by Public Law 105–275 (adopted October 21, 1998), further amended by S. Res. 75 (adopted March 25, 1999), amended by S. Res. 383 (adopted October 27, 2000), and amended by S. Res. 355 (adopted November 13, 2002), and further amended by S. Res. 480 (adopted November 21, 2004), further amended by S. Res. 625 (adopted December 6, 2006) and further amended by S. Res. 715 (adopted November 28, 2008), and amended by S. Res. 706 (adopted December 22, 2010), the appointment of the following Senator as a member of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 112th Congress: Senator Lieberman. **Page S559**

Illegal Border Crossing Financial Assistance—Referral Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Committee on Rules and Administration be discharged from further consideration of S. 126, to reduce the amount of financial assistance provided to the Government of Mexico in response to the illegal border crossings from Mexico into the United States, which serve to dissipate the political discontent with the higher unemployment rate within Mexico, and the bill then be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. **Page S559**

Atomic Energy Act—Referral Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Committee on Finance be discharged from further consideration of S. 109, to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to require congressional approval of agreements for peaceful nuclear cooperation with foreign countries, and the bill then be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. **Page S559**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jennifer A. Di Toro, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Donna Mary Murphy, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Yvonne M. Williams, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of

the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

4 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S559–64**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S542, S559**

Executive Communications: **Pages S542–43**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S543**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S544–45**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S545–53**

Additional Statements: **Pages S541–42**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S553–56**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S556**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—11) **Pages S535–36**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:27 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Friday, February 4, 2011. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S559.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARD IRAQ

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States policy toward Iraq, after receiving testimony from James F. Jeffrey, United States Ambassador to Iraq, Department of State; and General Lloyd Austin, Commander, United States Forces, Iraq, Department of Defense.

UNITED STATES ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine challenges for the United States economic recovery, after receiving testimony from Mark Zandi, Moody's Analytics, West Chester, Pennsylvania; Till von Wachter, Columbia University, New York, New York; and Raymond C. Scheppach, National Governors Association, and Chris Edwards, Cato Institute, both of Washington, D.C.

ENERGY AND OIL MARKET OUTLOOK

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the energy and oil market outlook for the 112th Congress, after receiving testimony from Richard Newell, Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; Richard H. Jones, International Energy Agency, Paris, France; Roger Diwan, PFC Energy,